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BUCHWALD *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/844,432***Remarks***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5 and 8-28 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 12 being the independent claims. Claims 3, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20 and 24 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Telephone Conference of March 23, 2005

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview of March 23, 2005. During the interview, minor corrections to the claims in view of the Amendment dated November 9, 2004 were discussed. The Examiner provided a set of proposed changes to the claims to the Applicants' representative and suggested the proposed changes be entered by Examiner's Amendment.

Telephone Conference of March 25, 2005

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview of March 25, 2005. During the interview, Applicants' representative requested that the minor changes to the claims be submitted by Amendment rather than entered by Examiner's Amendment. The Examiner consented to this request by the Applicants' representative.

Amended Claims

In response to the aforementioned telephone interviews, claims 3, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20 and 24 are amended to correct minor errors as discussed. Specifically, claims 3,
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8, 10, 14, 19, 20 and 24 are amended to correct antecedent basis issues while claim 16 is amended for clarity. Applicants contend claims 1-5 and 8-28 are allowable over the cited prior art based on the arguments and amendments presented in the Amendment dated November 9, 2004.

Second Supplemental IDS of February 28, 2005

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the IDS (Second Supplemental IDS) filed on February 28, 2005.

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Appl. No. 09/844,432***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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